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Sent: Thursday, December 29, 2005 3:13 PM  
To: MLPAComments@resources.ca.gov  
Subject: MLPAComments: TO: Chairman Isenberg and Blue Ribbon Task Force Members

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I am writing to you to ask again that time be allotted for a brief (approximately 1 hour) presentation on the existing fishery management rules and strategies that are relevant to developing a network of MPAs. Even though the Task Force has heard pieces of this in the past, the Task Force has never heard the whole story. Our members have been in attendance at every Task Force meeting, so we know this to be true.

By way of example as to why we believe Task Force members need to hear this information, let me pose the following questions:

- What significant new rules or policies have been put into place by the State or the Pacific Fishery Management Council since 1999?
- How would they affect the goals and objectives of the MLPA?
- What species of marine life taken in California waters do not have a science-based quota or bag limit?
- How are forage species allocated under existing management for birds and marine mammals?
- How does existing fishery management science assess the level of larval production and transport, and therefore of recruitment?
- What "no-trawl" and "no gill net" areas exist in State waters?
- Are you aware that existing State and Federal fishery management laws mandate protection of ecosystems as a top priority, which parallel the goals of the MLPA?

If the Blue Ribbon Task Force members feel comfortable that they have a full command of this topic and can answer these questions accurately then the presentation as we propose would not be necessary. However, this is a complex topic even for those of us who work in this area every day. It is of great importance to understand how a network of MPAs fits into this overall scheme. Task Force members have repeatedly heard presentations about the theory of larval transport and other conservationist based topics. We hope that the Task Force can find the time to hear about a topic that has direct relevance to the MPA planning effort and to a large set of stakeholders.

We would be happy to suggest presenters.

Thank you for considering my request.

Steve Scheiblauber